Gauge conversion in Gujarat

2872. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been received from the Government of Gujarat for making adequate budgetary provision for conversion/taking up of certain lines for upgradation to broad gauge;

(b) if so, the number of projects which have been approved by Government; and

(c) what is the present status of Surendranagar-Dharangadhra, Mehsana-Patan and Ahmedabad-Botad railway lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R.VELU):'(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Gauge conversion of Bharuch-Samni-Dahej and Rajpipla-Ankleshwar narrow gauge line have been included in the Budget 2006-2007.

(c) On Surendra.nagar-Dharangadha section 2 out of 4.19 lakh *cum* earthwork, 4 out of 7 nos. major bridges, 22 out of 26 nos. minor bridges and 70300 out of 85000 *cum* ballast supply have been completed.

On Mehsana-Patan section, 1 out of 3.41 lakh *cum* earthwork, 4 out of 9 nos. major bridges and 3 out of 37 nos. minor bridges have already been completed. Tenders for ballast supply have been processed.

On Ahmedabad-Botad section, survey for gauge conversion of this section has been completed.

Rise in prices of onion

†2873. DR. MURU MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.